

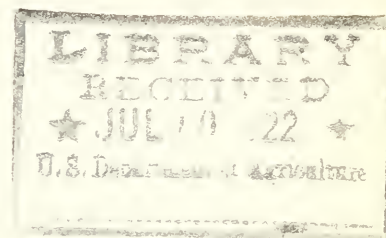
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THE EXTENSION HORTICULTURIST

July 1, 1922.



Opportunity knocks at your door every morning. It all depends upon your being awake to hear the call.

Broadcasting extension service by radio-phone may be all right and some of our workers are trying it, but how are you going to know if the fellow that needs it most is getting it?

Office of Horticultural and Pomological Investigations
and States Relations Service Cooperating,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

"What are You Going to do When You Get There?"

According to a story told on a New Jersey county agent and a visitor from Missouri, the county agent was telling about something that a farmer away down in the county had done. The visitor registered interest and immediately the county agent cranked his trusty car and said "jump in, lets go down there," whereupon the visitor, who, bear in mind was from Missouri, said "wait a minute - what are we going to do when we get there?" Upon careful consideration it was decided that there was really nothing to be gained by making the trip. This was told as a joke but therein lies a lesson for all of us. It is so easy to "crank up and go" that in many cases we "go" when we could just as well remain at home. Careful thought and planning will often save a lot of travel both by train and otherwise.

"What are you going to do when you get there?" is a good rule with which to measure every proposition that involves time and travel. We are just entering another fiscal year and plans for the work are being made. Careful consideration and planning may save all of us several trips to distant parts of our territory during the year.

Plans of Work.

For the past two weeks we have been busy studying the plans of work submitted for the coming fiscal year. Some of these are especially well drawn and show the cooperation between individuals and departments in the state, county and community and the duties of each, the lines of work and manner of conducting them and the means of measuring results and giving publicity. In most instances calendars of operation and state maps locating demonstrations are given and these are most important. A state map with the demonstrations located should always be included with the plan of work.

Not all of the plans of work are in yet but of those reviewed the following are especially good: Arkansas, Connecticut, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, New Jersey, Ohio, South Dakota, Washington and New York.

One of the states offered as a project five lines of work, including fruits and vegetables, but submitted no plan of work. The following plan patterned after the Ohio plan was drawn up in this office and represents our present idea of a good plan of work in fruit growing:

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

The first part of the history of the United States is the period from the discovery of the continent by Christopher Columbus in 1492 to the establishment of the first permanent settlements. This period is characterized by the exploration of the continent by Spanish, French, and English explorers, and the establishment of the first permanent settlements by the English in 1607. The second part of the history is the period from the establishment of the first permanent settlements to the American Revolution in 1776. This period is characterized by the growth of the colonies, the struggle for independence, and the establishment of the United States as a new nation. The third part of the history is the period from the American Revolution to the present. This period is characterized by the development of the United States as a major world power, the expansion of its territory, and the growth of its population.

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Plan of Work for Project in Horticulture.

1. The following lines will be emphasized during the year:

1. - Pruning
2. - Orchard tillage
3. - The farm garden
4. - Strawberries
5. - Tomatoes

2. Procedure

1 - Pruning

A. - Scope

This demonstrates the proper methods of pruning different kinds of fruit trees of different ages.

B - Organization and procedure.

- (a) The county agent, county home demonstration agent, county fruit committee or other county or community organization, and state specialist, will suggest demonstration orchards and the state specialist and county agent will select the demonstration orchards and demonstrators.
- (b) The specialist will prepare a program and furnish a copy to the county agent and demonstrator. Blank forms are given the demonstrator for keeping records.

The specialist will visit the orchard when necessary to demonstrate pruning and in the fall a field meeting will be held to explain results of pruning on crop of fruit and condition of trees.
- (c) The county agent will visit the orchard occasionally and arrange for meetings and publicity.
- (d) The demonstrator agrees to follow instructions, to keep a record of work done, and to give local publicity.
- (e) Counties will be selected where greatest influences may be expected and results will have wide application.

C - Records, - Follow up Work, Publicity.

- (a) Such office records will be kept by card index system or otherwise so that at any time the name and address of the demonstrator, the present status of the work and all necessary information will be available. This will be a permanent record of the extension office.
- (b) Community meetings will be held at the demonstrations when desirable, the work discussed and printed matter distributed. The demonstrator may be furnished with timely hints during the season.
- (c) Publicity will be conducted through the farm bureau or county community council, county newspapers, correspondence, telephone and the college extension news service. An auto tour will be arranged at the proper time and summer field meetings will be held. Exhibits of fruit properly labeled from pruned and unpruned trees will be exhibited in public places and at fairs.

D - Results

Results will be measured by comparison of crops from pruned and unpruned trees, condition of trees, interest displayed by those seeing the demonstration, and the amount of pruning stimulated in the county.

Note - The other headings of the project - orchard tillage, etc., should be written up after the general plan for pruning.

A calendar of operations covering all of the horticultural work should follow the plan of work.

----- Plan of Work for Project in Landscape Gardening - Maryland.

I. The following lines will be emphasized during the year:

- 1. Laying out and developing home grounds.
- 2. Laying out school or other public grounds.

II. Procedure.

- 1. Laying out and developing home grounds.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

CHAPTER I
THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA
The first discovery of America was made by Christopher Columbus in 1492. He sailed from Spain and reached the island of San Salvador in the West Indies. This was the first of many voyages that he made to the New World.

Columbus's discovery of America was a great event in the history of the world. It opened up a new world of discovery and exploration. It also led to the development of the Americas as a major part of the world's economy.

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CHAPTER IV

A - Scope

This embraces the laying out of home grounds, and the kinds and proper use of shrubs and trees and annual and perennial flowers.

B - Organization and procedure.

(a) The county agent, county home demonstration agent, county horticultural committee or community association committee, and state landscape specialist, will suggest home grounds for demonstrations and the county agent and state specialist will select the demonstration home grounds and demonstrators.

(b) The state specialist will prepare a program of operations and furnish a copy to the county agent and demonstrator, the latter also being given blank forms for records.

The state specialist will visit the demonstration when necessary to teach the proper pruning and care of shrubs, trees and other plants. He will discuss at the demonstrations or at meetings the principles of landscape gardening, the making of flower and shrubbery beds and the planting and pruning of shade trees and their subsequent care.

(c) The county agent will visit the demonstrations occasionally, give publicity, and arrange for meetings whenever results warrant them.

(d) The demonstrator will agree to follow instructions, keep a record of work done and give local publicity.

(e) Counties will be selected where greatest influences may be expected and results will have wide application.

C - Records, Follow-up Work, Publicity.

(a) Such office records will be kept by card index system or otherwise that at anytime the name and address of the demonstrator, the present status of the work and all necessary information will be available. This will be a permanent record of the extension office.

(b) Community meetings will be held at the demonstrations when desirable, the work discussed, and printed or mimeograph matter distributed. The demonstrator may be furnished with timely hints during the season.

(c) Publicity will be conducted through the county community council or farm bureau, the newspapers, by correspondence, telephone and university extension news service.

D - Results.

Results will be measured by growth and condition of plants, shrubs and trees, the interest displayed by those seeing the demonstration and the amount of home yard improvement stimulated in the county.

Note - The laying out of school or other public grounds should be written up in the same general way.

Calendar of Operations.

January and February - Landscape surveys and drafting; attending meetings.
March and April - Demonstration landscape plantings; attending meetings.
May, June and July - Visits to demonstrations.
August and September - Exhibits at fairs, meetings at demonstrations.
October, November and December - Landscape surveys and drafting;
attending meetings.

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(Atypical vegetable plan will be included in a later number.)

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Field Trip of Prof. Close.

On July 1, Prof. Close starts on an extended trip to Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Washington, Oregon and Idaho, returning by way of Ames, Iowa, to attend the meeting on August 15 - 18, of the Great Plains section of the American Society for Horticultural Science. In Yakima, Washington, he will attend the meeting of the Northwest Horticulturists, Plant Pathologists, and Entomologists on July 25. He will study the methods of conducting demonstrations and the results obtained in the states visited. In Wisconsin the care of the home orchard and the improving of farm homes by ornamental planting are the main lines. In Minnesota the home orchard and garden are receiving attention. North Dakota is concerned with the development of the farmstead, including shelter belt planting, ornamentals and fruit and vegetable gardens. Washington and Oregon are heavily interested in all phases of orchard and small fruit management and Irish potato production and have a great many demonstrations under way. Idaho stresses the Irish potato hardest, but has fruit work going and is looking after the new industry of head lettuce production.

Should any of the extension specialists need to correspond with Prof. Close during the time of this trip, mail will reach him as follows:

At Madison, Wisconsin, (General Delivery), July 7; at Andrews Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 11; at Fargo, North Dakota, (General Delivery), July 14; at Frye Hotel, Seattle, Washington, July 24; at Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Oregon, July 31; at Corvallis, Oregon, (General Delivery), August 3; at Boise, Idaho, (General Delivery), August 10; at Ames, Iowa, (General Delivery), August 16.

Field Trips of Mr. Beattie.

During the first 10 days of June, Mr. Beattie visited the trucking section around Charleston, South Carolina, and the watermelon and muskmelon growing sections of Florida and southern Georgia. At the time of his visit to the Charleston section June 1st, cucumbers were moving heavily. At Meggett, South Carolina, a short distance below Charleston, the association is constructing a large packing shed and have arranged to have the cucumbers brought in field crates by rail and by wagon to this shed for grading and final packing for the market. By this method a better grade and more standard pack will be obtained. The watermelon crop of southern Florida was badly damaged by drought while that of northern Florida and southern Georgia suffered seriously by an excess of rain. At Valdosta, Georgia, the large muskmelon crop was practically ruined by wet weather. The muskmelon crop in the Thomasville and Pelham section was, however, most excellent. The watermelon crop in the Thomasville section was greatly damaged by wet weather. The acreage of water melons, both in Georgia and Florida, is very large this year, but due to rather poor set of melons, it is doubtful if there will be an over-production. An educational campaign to teach the growers the proper stage of maturity at which muskmelons should be gathered for shipment is essential as the market is being greatly injured by green stock.

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On June 25 to 27, Mr. Beattie visited the trucking and fruit section of southwestern South Carolina, especially around Williston, Blackville and Aiken, Mr. Geo. P. Hoffman, who is in charge of extension work in horticulture in the State, accompanying him.

A point that may be of great interest to extension workers in certain of the states is the manner in which the horticultural extension force of South Carolina are organized. There are 4 men engaged in this work, Mr. Hoffmann and 3 assistants and for convenience the state has been divided into 3 sections. Formerly the men all had their headquarters at Clemson College but in order to cut down travel expenses and facilitate the work local headquarters have been established, Aiken being the point selected for the southwestern part of the State. This system has its advantages but it also has its drawbacks. In the first place the specialist assigned to the district is more available to the county agents than were he to have his headquarters at the College, but on the other hand the specialist is cut off from the subject matter departments of the College and is thrown upon his own resources. It is our observation that where a system of this kind is followed the men assigned to the local headquarters should be men of very wide experience and fully capable of handling almost any situation without the aid of the subject matter heads at the College. This plan is working to good advantage in Massachusetts, where Prof. Thompson has his headquarters at Arlington, but Prof. Thompson is also head of the vegetable gardening department of the College.

Horticultural work in South Carolina is developing very rapidly and the calls upon the extension workers are numerous and of a very important nature. In the Williston section there are thousands of acres of asparagus while the planting of peaches is being extended throughout that section of the State

The first of these is the fact that the
 government has not been able to
 control the money supply. This
 has led to a situation where the
 government is unable to finance its
 operations. The second is the fact
 that the government has not been
 able to control the interest rate.
 This has led to a situation where
 the government is unable to
 attract foreign investment. The
 third is the fact that the
 government has not been able to
 control the exchange rate. This
 has led to a situation where the
 government is unable to
 maintain its international
 position.

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running from Aiken in a northeasterly direction to Hamlet, North Carolina. Seldom have we crowded so much into 2 or 3 days' travel as that included in this short visit to South Carolina.

Following the visit to South Carolina, Mr. Beattie spent portions of 28 days with County Agent E. H. Waite of Ocean County, New Jersey, the specific problem being the organization of a group of farmers and business men for the construction of a sweet potato curing and storage plant. In the course of visits to the farms where sweet potatoes are grown a side trip was made to the White Cranberry Bog where cooperative work with the Department in the breeding, propagation and improvement of blueberries is being conducted on a large scale. This visit emphasizes the wonderful possibilities that are opening up for the commercial propagation of blueberries. The work was undertaken several years ago by Miss White, daughter of the owner of the cranberry plantation, who offered prizes for the best native wild blueberry plants growing in that section of the State. The Department had already started breeding work with blueberries but upon learning of the work done by Miss White, a cooperative agreement was entered into. On the date above referred to - June 30 - a heavy picking of blueberries was being made from the hybrid plantings consisting of several acres of plants set 4 X 8 feet, many of which are now in their fourth year. The plants stand 3 to 4 feet in height, some individual plants yielding a pint or more of berries to a picking, the picking season extending from 4 to 6 weeks. In this plantation we find types suited to all conditions from Maine to Florida and it is only a matter of time until the propagation of selected plants will have reached the stage where the industry can be placed upon a commercial basis.

Mr. Mulford attended the meeting of the American Peony Society held at London, Ontario, on June 16 and 17, and also visited points in New York State on his way back to Washington.

California's Loss - Our Loss.

Fruit extension work in California suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Dr. J. C. Whitten, which occurred in the City of Washington on June 5th, 1922. Although California does not have a Smith-Lever project in fruit growing, a very large amount of state fruit demonstration work is being done and Dr. Whitten took a most active part in it. The Doctor came to Washington upon the invitation of Secretary Wallace to act as referee at the hearing of quarantine 37 before the Federal Horticultural Board. A short time before leaving California he had an attack of the Flu but had apparently recovered. Very soon after reaching Washington he suffered a relapse and failed day by day until the end came.

W. R. Beattie,
Extension Horticulturist.

C. P. Clase,
Extension Pomologist.

